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Census  
of  
Population

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URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY STATES  
1960 AND 1950

(The statistics shown here are taken from Final Report PC(1)-1A, which is scheduled to be published within the next few weeks and which will contain additional summary information on the geographic distribution of the population)

Seven out of every ten of the 179.3 million inhabitants of the United States were living in urban territory at the time of the 1960 Census of Population. The 1960 urban population of 125.3 million represents an increase of 29 percent over the 1950 total of 96.8 million. The rural population, on the other hand, numbered 54.1 million, or slightly below the 1950 figure of 54.5 million.

Despite decreases in many of the larger cities, the urban population increased in all 50 States between 1950 and 1960. In 4 of the States--Alaska, Florida, Nevada, and Utah--the urban population more than doubled. In contrast to the trend in the urban population, the rural population declined in 28 States. These included all 15 States in three geographic divisions--the West North Central, East South Central, and West South Central--and 5 of the 8 States in the Mountain Division. The Middle Atlantic Division was the only one in which no State lost rural population.

The urban population exceeded the rural population in 39 States. The most urban of the States was New Jersey, where 89 percent of

the population was so classified. More than four out of five residents were living in urban territory in 5 other States, namely, California (86 percent), Rhode Island (86), New York (85), Massachusetts (84), and Illinois (81). The most rural of the States was North Dakota, where 65 percent of the total was rural. The other 10 States in which the rural population was in the majority were Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, and West Virginia.

DEFINITION

According to the definition adopted for use in the 1960 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, villages, and towns (except towns in New England, New York, and Wisconsin); (b) the densely settled urban fringe, whether incorporated or unincorporated, of urbanized areas; (c) towns in New England and townships in New Jersey and Pennsylvania which contain no incorporated municipalities as subdivisions



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and have either 25,000 inhabitants or more or a population of 2,500 to 25,000 and a density of 1,500 persons or more per square mile; (d) counties in States other than the New England States, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania that have no incorporated municipalities within their boundaries and have a density of 1,500 persons or more per square mile; and (e) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more. The population not classified as urban constitutes

the rural population. A more detailed discussion of the urban-rural definition and of the trends in the population by urban-rural residence will appear in Final Report PC(1)-1A.

An outline of the publication program for the 1960 Census of Population may be obtained free of charge from the Bureau of the Census, Washington 25, D.C., or any United States Department of Commerce Field Office.

Table 1.--URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: 1790 TO 1960  
(For description of current and previous definitions, see text. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease)

Census date	Population	Total		Urban		Rural		Percent of total	
		Increase over preceding census		Population		Increase over preceding census		Population	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>UNITED STATES</b>									
Current urban definition:									
1960.....	179,323,175	27,997,377	18.5	125,288,750	28,421,933	29.3	54,054,425	-424,556	-0.8
1950.....	151,325,798	...	96,846,817	...	...	54,478,981	...	...	64.0
Previous urban definition:									
1960.....	179,323,175	27,997,377	18.5	113,056,353	22,928,159	25.4	66,266,822	5,069,218	8.3
1950.....	151,325,798	19,161,220	14.5	90,128,194	15,422,856	20.6	61,197,604	3,728,373	6.5
1940.....	132,164,569	8,963,245	7.3	74,705,328	5,524,739	8.0	54,477,231	3,417,206	6.3
1930.....	121,202,624	17,181,087	16.2	69,180,599	14,907,317	27.5	54,042,025	2,273,770	4.4
CONTINUOUS UNITED STATES									
Current urban definition:									
1960.....	178,464,236	27,765,875	18.4	124,689,022	28,231,336	29.3	53,765,214	-464,461	-0.9
1950.....	150,697,361	...	96,487,686	...	...	54,229,675	...	...	64.0
Previous urban definition:									
1960.....	178,464,236	27,765,875	18.4	112,521,941	22,782,878	25.4	65,932,295	4,983,997	8.2
1950.....	150,697,361	19,022,086	14.5	85,749,063	15,323,361	20.6	160,348,586	3,702,725	6.5
1940.....	131,669,275	8,894,229	7.2	74,423,702	5,468,879	7.9	57,265,573	3,425,350	6.4
1930.....	122,775,046	17,064,426	16.1	68,934,823	4,796,850	27.3	53,820,223	2,267,576	4.4
1920.....	105,710,620	13,738,354	14.9	54,137,973	12,159,041	29.0	51,532,647	1,579,313	3.2
1910.....	91,972,266	15,977,691	21.0	42,998,932	11,839,011	39.3	49,973,334	4,138,680	9.0
1900.....	75,924,575	13,046,861	20.7	30,152,921	8,053,626	36.4	45,834,654	4,993,205	12.2
1890.....	62,947,774	12,791,931	25.5	22,316,265	7,976,530	56.5	40,841,449	4,815,401	12.4
1880.....	50,155,743	11,597,412	20.1	16,129,735	4,227,374	42.7	36,056,048	7,370,038	25.7
1870.....	38,598,371	7,115,030	22.6	9,902,361	3,685,843	59.3	28,636,010	3,429,207	13.6
1860.....	31,443,321	8,251,445	35.6	6,216,518	2,672,802	75.4	5,576,643	4,423,762	28.4
1850.....	22,191,876	6,122,423	35.9	3,543,716	1,668,661	92.1	19,648,260	2,793,398	29.7
1840.....	17,069,453	4,203,433	32.7	1,845,055	717,808	63.7	15,224,398	3,485,625	31.2
1830.....	12,866,020	3,227,567	33.5	1,127,247	433,992	62.6	11,738,773	8,793,575	8.8
1820.....	9,638,453	2,398,572	33.1	693,255	167,796	31.9	8,945,198	2,220,776	7.2
1810.....	7,229,881	1,933,398	36.4	525,459	203,088	63.0	6,714,422	1,726,310	92.8
1800.....	5,308,483	1,377,269	35.1	322,371	120,716	59.9	4,986,112	1,226,533	6.1
1790.....	3,929,214	...	201,655	...	...	...	3,727,559	...	5.1

<sup>1</sup> Revised since publication of 1950 reports.

Table 2.--URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY REGIONS, DIVISIONS, AND STATES: 1960 AND 1950

Region, division, and State	1960			1950			Percent increase, 1950 to 1960		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
United States.....	179,323,175	125,268,750	54,054,425	151,325,798	96,846,817	54,478,981	18.5	29.3	-0.8
REGIONS:									
Northeast.....	44,677,819	35,840,140	8,837,679	39,477,986	31,373,200	8,104,786	13.2	14.2	9.0
North Central.....	51,619,139	35,481,254	16,137,885	44,460,762	28,490,932	15,969,830	16.1	24.5	1.1
South.....	54,973,113	32,160,250	22,812,863	47,197,088	22,955,762	24,241,326	16.5	40.1	-5.9
West.....	28,053,104	21,787,106	6,265,998	20,189,962	14,026,923	6,163,039	38.9	55.3	1.7
NORTHEAST:									
New England.....	10,509,367	8,031,795	2,477,572	9,314,453	7,101,511	2,212,942	12.8	13.1	12.0
Middle Atlantic.....	34,168,452	27,808,345	6,360,107	30,163,533	24,271,689	5,891,844	13.3	14.6	7.9
NORTH CENTRAL:									
East North Central.....	36,225,024	26,434,937	9,790,087	30,399,368	21,185,713	9,213,655	19.2	24.8	6.3
West North Central.....	15,394,115	9,046,317	6,347,798	14,061,394	7,305,219	6,756,175	9.5	23.8	-6.0
SOUTH:									
South Atlantic.....	25,971,732	14,851,516	11,120,216	21,182,335	10,391,163	10,791,172	22.6	42.9	3.0
East South Central.....	12,050,126	5,830,569	6,219,557	11,477,181	4,484,771	6,992,410	5.0	30.0	-11.1
West South Central.....	16,951,255	11,478,165	5,473,090	14,537,572	8,079,828	6,457,744	16.6	42.1	15.2
WEST:									
Mountain.....	6,855,060	4,600,852	2,254,208	5,074,998	2,785,888	2,289,110	35.1	65.1	-1.5
Pacific.....	21,198,044	17,186,254	4,011,790	15,114,964	11,241,035	3,873,929	40.2	52.9	3.6
NEW ENGLAND:									
Maine.....	969,265	497,114	472,151	913,774	472,000	441,774	6.1	5.3	6.9
New Hampshire.....	606,921	353,766	253,155	533,242	306,806	226,436	13.8	15.3	11.8
Vermont.....	389,881	149,921	239,960	377,747	137,612	240,135	3.2	8.9	-0.1
Massachusetts.....	5,148,578	4,302,530	846,048	4,690,514	3,959,239	731,275	9.8	8.7	15.7
Rhode Island.....	859,488	742,897	116,591	791,896	667,212	124,684	8.5	11.3	-6.5
Connecticut.....	2,535,234	1,985,567	549,667	2,007,280	1,558,642	448,638	26.3	27.4	22.5
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:									
New York.....	16,782,304	14,331,925	2,450,379	14,830,192	12,682,446	2,147,746	13.2	13.0	14.1
New Jersey.....	6,066,782	5,374,369	692,413	4,835,329	4,186,207	649,122	25.5	28.4	6.7
Pennsylvania.....	11,319,365	8,102,051	3,217,315	10,498,012	7,403,036	3,094,976	7.8	9.4	4.0
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:									
Ohio.....	9,706,397	7,123,162	2,583,235	7,946,627	5,578,274	2,368,353	22.1	27.7	9.1
Indiana.....	4,662,498	2,910,149	1,752,349	3,934,224	2,357,196	1,577,028	18.5	23.5	11.1
Illinois.....	10,081,158	8,140,315	1,940,843	8,712,176	6,759,271	1,952,905	15.7	20.4	-0.6
Michigan.....	7,823,194	5,739,132	2,084,062	6,371,766	4,503,084	868,682	22.8	27.4	11.5
Wisconsin.....	3,951,777	2,522,179	1,429,598	3,434,575	1,987,888	1,446,687	15.1	26.9	-1.2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL:									
Minnesota.....	3,413,864	2,122,566	1,291,298	2,982,483	1,624,914	1,357,569	14.5	30.6	-4.9
Iowa.....	2,757,537	1,462,512	1,295,025	2,621,073	1,250,938	1,370,135	5.2	16.9	-5.5
Missouri.....	4,319,813	2,876,557	1,443,256	3,954,653	2,432,715	1,521,938	9.2	18.2	-5.2
North Dakota.....	632,446	222,708	409,738	619,636	164,817	454,819	2.1	35.1	-9.9
South Dakota.....	680,514	267,180	413,334	652,740	216,710	436,030	4.3	23.3	-5.2
Nebraska.....	1,411,330	766,053	643,277	1,325,510	621,905	703,605	6.5	23.2	-8.3
Kansas.....	2,178,611	1,328,741	849,870	1,905,299	993,220	912,079	14.3	33.8	-6.8
SOUTH ATLANTIC:									
Delaware.....	446,292	292,788	153,504	318,085	189,122	118,963	40.3	47.0	29.0
Maryland.....	3,100,689	2,255,832	846,857	2,343,001	1,615,902	727,099	32.3	39.5	16.5
District of Columbia.....	763,956	763,956	...	802,178	802,178	...	-4.8	-4.8	...
Virginia.....	3,966,949	2,204,913	1,762,036	3,318,680	1,560,115	1,758,565	19.5	41.3	0.2
West Virginia.....	1,860,421	711,101	1,149,320	2,005,552	694,487	1,311,065	-7.2	2.4	-12.3
North Carolina.....	4,556,155	1,801,921	2,754,234	4,061,929	1,368,101	2,693,828	12.2	31.7	2.2
South Carolina.....	2,382,994	981,386	1,401,208	2,117,027	777,921	1,339,106	12.5	26.2	4.6
Georgia.....	3,943,116	2,180,236	1,762,880	3,444,578	1,559,447	1,885,131	14.5	39.8	-6.5
Florida.....	4,951,560	3,661,383	1,290,177	2,771,305	1,813,890	957,415	78.7	101.9	34.8
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:									
Kentucky.....	3,038,156	1,353,215	1,684,941	2,944,806	1,084,070	1,860,736	3.2	24.8	-9.4
Tennessee.....	3,567,089	1,864,828	1,702,261	3,291,718	1,452,602	1,839,116	8.4	28.4	-7.4
Alabama.....	3,266,740	1,791,721	1,475,019	3,061,743	1,340,937	1,720,806	6.7	33.6	-14.3
Mississippi.....	2,178,141	820,805	1,357,336	2,178,914	607,162	1,571,752	(1)	35.2	-13.6
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:									
Arkansas.....	1,786,272	765,303	1,020,969	1,909,511	630,591	1,278,920	-6.5	21.4	-20.2
Louisiana.....	3,257,022	2,060,606	1,196,416	2,633,516	1,471,696	1,211,820	21.4	40.0	-1.3
Oklahoma.....	2,328,284	1,464,786	863,498	2,233,351	1,139,481	1,093,870	4.3	28.5	-21.1
Texas.....	9,579,877	7,187,470	2,392,207	7,711,194	4,838,060	2,673,124	24.2	48.6	-16.7
MOUNTAIN:									
Montana.....	674,767	338,457	336,310	591,024	258,034	332,990	14.2	31.2	1.0
Idaho.....	667,191	317,097	350,094	588,637	252,549	336,088	13.3	25.6	4.2
Wyoming.....	330,066	187,551	142,515	290,529	144,618	145,911	13.6	29.7	-2.3
Colorado.....	1,753,947	1,292,790	461,197	1,325,089	831,318	493,771	32.4	55.5	-6.6
New Mexico.....	951,023	626,479	324,544	681,187	341,889	339,298	39.6	83.2	-4.3
Arizona.....	1,302,161	970,616	331,545	749,587	416,000	333,587	73.7	133.3	-0.6
Utah.....	890,627	667,158	223,469	688,862	449,855	239,007	29.3	48.3	-6.5
Nevada.....	285,278	200,704	84,574	160,083	91,625	68,458	78.2	119.0	23.5
PACIFIC:									
Washington.....	2,853,214	1,943,249	909,965	2,378,963	1,503,166	875,797	19.9	29.3	3.9
Oregon.....	1,768,687	1,100,122	668,565	1,521,341	819,318	702,023	16.3	34.3	4.8
California.....	15,717,204	13,573,155	2,144,049	10,586,223	8,539,420	2,046,803	48.5	58.9	4.8
Alaska.....	226,167	85,767	140,400	128,643	34,262	94,381	75.8	150.3	48.8
Hawaii.....	632,772	483,961	148,811	499,794	344,869	154,925	26.6	40.3	-3.9

<sup>1</sup> Less than 0.1 percent.